



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 29, 2007

S. 376

Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2007

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on May 17, 2007

Current law exempts certain active and retired law enforcement officers from most state and local laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed firearms. S. 376 would clarify that officers of the Amtrak Police Department and the executive branch of the federal government would qualify as individuals who may carry concealed firearms. The bill also would change the requirements that retired officers must meet to carry concealed firearms. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would result in no significant costs to the federal government. Enacting S. 376 would not affect direct spending or receipts.

S. 376 contains an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) because it would expand a current mandate that preempts certain state or local laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed weapons. Currently, federal law allows active and retired law enforcement officers who meet certain requirements to carry concealed weapons; this authority preempts some state and local statutes that prohibit private citizens or law enforcement officers from carrying such weapons. S. 376 would increase the number of current and former officers who would be allowed to carry concealed weapons. CBO estimates that the costs, if any, to those governments would be insignificant and well below the annual threshold established in that act (\$66 million in 2007, adjusted annually for inflation). S. 376 contains no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Mark Grabowicz (for federal costs) and Melissa Merrell (for the impact on state and local governments). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.